

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 ITF-05 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 VO-03 SCA-01 /122 W

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O R 151035Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6779

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 858

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EI

SUBJECT: US/EC CONSULTATIONS: VIETNAM

SUMMARY: IRISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR NOEL DORR BRIEFED US EVENING

MAY 14 ON RESULTS OF EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING MAY 12/13.

VIETNAM PROBLEMS DISCUSSED WERE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, RECOGNITION

OF PRG, AND ENTRY OF PRG INTO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WE

ALSO USED OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN PRELIMINARY IRISH BILATERAL REACT-

ION TO US REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT OF

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REFUGEES. OTHER SUBJECTS SEPTELS. END SUMMARY

1. RECOGNITION PROBLEM: EC HAD PREVIOUSLY DECIDED THAT RESPONSE TO RECOGNITION PROBLEM WILL DIFFER FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, SINCE EACH HAS ITS OWN LEGAL PRACTICE. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, EC COUNTRIES APPEAR PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO RECOGNIZE NEW SOUTH VIETNAM REGIME, BUT THERE IS SOME PROBLEM IN "FINDING THE PRG," WHICH DOES NOT YET SEEM TO HAVE GOVERNMENT FULLY ORGANIZED. IN EFFECT, DORR SAID, THE ONLY REAL PROBLEM SEEMS TO BE "GETTING THE PRG TO STAND STILL LONG ENOUGH TO BE RECOGNIZED."

2. ENTRY OF NEW REGIME INTO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: GENERAL FEELING WAS THAT THE BEST WAY TO FACILITATE ENTRY OF NEW SOUTH VIETNAM REGIME INTO SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND INTO OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE TO PROCEED BY CONSENSUS WHERE POSSIBLE, RATHER THAN HAVING A ROLLCALL VOTE. THIS DISCUSSION DID NOT CONCERN THE UNGA SPECIFICALLY.

3. REFUGEES: THE UNHCR HAS SENT OUT A MESSAGE TO A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE NINE, REQUESTING SUPPORT IN THE REFUGEE PROBLEM (SEE GENEVA 3382 AND 3347). THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED THIS MESSAGE AS WELL AS EARLIER APPROACHES BY THE US TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND TO THE EC AS A WHOLE. AGAIN, THE SITUATION VARIES GREATLY FROM ONE EC COUNTRY TO ANOTHER, BUT ALL SEEM GENERALLY DISPOSED TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE. THE EC WILL SEND A JOINT RESPONSE TO THE UNHCR AS SOON AS ALL MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED THEIR INDIVIDUAL MESSAGES. (SOME HAD NOT RECEIVED THEM YET.) COUNTRIES WILL ALSO BE IN BILATERAL CONTACT WITH THE UNHCR AS WELL AS WITH THE US. IN REPLY TO THE UNHCR, EC WILL NOTE THE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAM AND CABODIAN REFUGEES, EXPRESS A WILLINGNESS TO HELP, AND INDICATE THAT INDICATE THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WILL FOLLOW THROUGH. POLITICAL DIRECTORS DID NOT GET INTO DISCUSSIONS OF DETAILS OF REFUGEE PROBLEM.

4. MOVING FROM US/EC TO BILATERAL AREA, WE ASKED DORR IF HE COULD GIVE US ANY PRELIMINARY REPORT ON IRISH THINKING ON REFUGEES. HE ASKED US TO PROTECT INFORMATION HE WOULD GIVE, AS ANY PUBLICITY WOULD CERTAINLY COMPLICATE IRISH EFFORTS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE, GIVEN HIGH PUBLIC CONCERN IN THIS COUNTRY OVER UNEMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING SHORTAGES. WITH THIS CAUTION, DORR SAID THAT IRISH ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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DISPOSED POLITICALLY TO BE AS HELPFUL AS THEY CAN. THEY WILL BE DISCUSSING THE SITUATION WITH THE UNHCR, SINCE THEY HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS IS THE CHANNEL USG WOULD LIKE THEM TO USE. IRISH CONTRIBUTION WILL OBVIOUSLY NOT BE A LARGE ONE ON WORLD SCALE, BUT THEY WANT IT TO BE A REAL ONE AND NOT MERELY A PUBLICITY GESTURE THAT COULD RESULT IN AN UNHAPPY GROUP OF REFUGEES. BY WAY OF PRECEDENT, DORR NOTED THAT GOI HAD TAKEN SEVENTY-SIX CHILEAN REFUGEES. THEY HAD BEEN WORKING OUT REASONABLY WELL,

THOUGH WITH CERTAIN ADAPTATION PROBLEMS. CHILEAN CASE WAS MUCH EASIER BECAUSE THERE WAS A PUBLIC GROUP WHICH TOOK AN INTEREST IN RESETTLEMENT AND DID A VAST AMOUNT OF WORK FOR THE REFUGEES. AS FAR AS THE IRISH KNOW, THERE IS NO COMPARABLE PUBLIC INTEREST IN VIETNAM REFUGEES AND NO SIMILAR PERSONAL TIES. IRISH WOULD CERTAINLY LIKE TO HEAR PROMPTLY OF ANY VIETNAM REFUGEES WHO HAVE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN IRELAND. UNLESS SOME HELPFUL TIES OF THIS KIND TURN UP, IRISH FEEL THAT IT WILL TAKE LOTS OF WORK AND STUDY TO ARRANGE MODALITIES OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.

5. COMMENT: WE DO NOT THINK THE IRISH ARE EXAGGERATING THE DIFFICULTIES OF WORKING OUT A VIABLE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT FOR VIETNAMESE HERE, AND WE ARE PLEASED TO HEAR THAT GOI IS ACTIVELY TRYING TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTIES.

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